

The Native

"OUR COUNTRY, ALWAYS RIGHT."

VOL. IV.] CITY OF WASHINGTON,

POETRY.

EARTH'S CHANGES.

BY LYDIA H. SIGOURNEY.

As waves the grass upon the field to-day,
Which soon the waving scythe shall sweep away,
As smiles the flower in the morning dew,
Which ev'ning's chill blast upon the winds may strew,
Thus, in brief glory boast the sons of clay,
Thus bloom a while, then wither and decay.

Dead tends to dust,—with ashes, ashes blend,
The senseless turf conceals the buried friend:
A few may sigh, upon the grave's dark brink,
And nature's gladness gladden in its eye;
A few sad hearts in lonely sorrow bleed,
And pay that tribute which they soon must need.

I saw the infant, in its robe of white,
Its floating mother's ever dear delight,
It clapp'd its hands when tones of mirth went by,
And nature's gladness gladden in its eye;
Again I came! An empty crib was there,
A little coffin, and a funeral prayer.

I saw the ruddy boy, of vigor bold,
Who feared not summer's heat, nor winter's cold,
With dexterous heel he skimmed the frozen pool,
His laugh rang loud, 'mid his mates at school,
Again I sought him, but his name was found,
On the low stone that marks his church-yard mound.

Oh! boasted joys of Earth! how swift ye fly,
Rent from the hand, or hidden from the eye:
So, through the web the weaver's shuttle glides,
So, speeds the vessel o'er the billowy tides,
So cleaves the bird, the liquid fields of light,
And leaves no furrow of its trackless flight.

But we, frail beings, shrinking from the storm,
We love these skies, that gathering clouds deform,
Though wounded oft, as oft renew our toil,
To rear a fabric on this sand swept soil,
And still we strive, forgetful of the grave,
To fix our anchor on the tossing wave.

Yet He, who marks us in our vain career,
Of shows how frail is what we hold most dear,
Spreads o'er our face below't the deathful gloom,
Or hides a parent in the lonely tomb,
Arrests the thoughtless, bids the worldling feel,
Wounds to admonish, and afflicts to heal.

Look to that world, where every pain shall cease,
Grief turn to joy, and labor end in peace,
Oh! seek that world, by penitence and prayer,
Sow the seed here, and reap the fruitage there,
Where shadowy joys no longer cheat the soul,
But one unclouded joy, in changeless light shall roll.

The following lines are inexpressibly tender. They are addressed by a young wife to a desponding husband:

WEDDED LOVE.

Come, rouse thee, dearest—'tis not well
To let the spirit brood;
Thus darkly o'er the cares that swell
Life's current to a flood;
As brooks and torrents, rivers, all,
Increase the gulf in which they fall,
Such thoughts, by gathering up the rills
Of lesser grief spread real life;
And with their gloomy shades conceal
The landmarks hope would still reveal.

Come, rouse thee now—I know thy mind,
And would its strength awake;
Proud, gifted, noble, ardent, kind—
Strange thou should be thus shaken!
But rouse fresh energy,
And be what heaven intended thee;
Throw from thy thought this weary weight,
And prove thy spirit here great.
I would not see thee bend below
The angry storms of earthly woe.

Full well I know thy generous soul
Which warms thee into life,
Each spring which can its powers control,
Familiar to thy will;
For deem'st thou she could stoop to bind
Her fate unto a common mind?
The eagle-like ambition nursed
From childhood in her heart had first
Consumed with its promethean flame
The shrine that sunk her so to shame.

Then, rouse thee, dearest! from the dream
That fetters now thy powers;
Shake off this gloom—Hope sheds a beam
To gild each cloud which lowers;
And though at present seems so far,
The wished-for goal, the guiding star,
With peaceful ray would light thee on,
Until its bond be won;
That quenchless ray, thou'lt ever prove,
A fond, undying, wedded love!

MISCELLANY.

CONSUMPTION.

The New York American, and the Philadelphia Inquirer, have lately given some valuable details to the public, upon the subject of Consumption—that terrible disease which "walketh in darkness," and daily withers the young and beautiful in our midst. The former journal, first gives statistics of the disease in various parts of Europe, compiled from a paper of the celebrated Dr. Andral, read before the French Academy of Science, in 1837. They are as follows:—*Sat. Eve. Post.*

Of 1000 deaths at Stockholm, 68 by consumption.
Do. do at Petersburg, nearly same number.
Do. do at Vienna, 115.
Do. do at Munich, nearly same number.
Do. do at Berlin, 150.
Do. do at London, 236—Dr. Crichton.
Do. do at Paris, nearly same number.

Dr. Crichton, in his excellent work on consumption, remarks, that it is much more prevalent in Great Britain than in Russia; and within the temperate latitudes of Europe, viz: between 45° and 50°, it occurs more frequently than in higher latitudes. It is more prevalent in Germany than in Stockholm, and St. Petersburg; and in London and Paris, nearly a fourth of the population die of this disease.

There are particular places within the temperate latitudes of Europe, more subject to it than others; owing, probably, to the cold winds from the Alps and Apennines.

Of 1000 deaths at Marseilles, 250 by consumption.
Do. do at Genoa, 167 do
Do. do at Naples, 123 do

While at Rome and Pisa, the deaths are about 100, owing, probably, to their sheltered situations.

The disease is common in Madrid, Lisbon, Gibraltar, and Malta, and very frequent in the Antilles. From these facts it would appear, that consumption is more or less the disease of all climates; but that in very cold ones, such as Stockholm, and St. Petersburg, much less so than in the temperate latitude of Europe.

"We learn," he adds, "by a careful examination of the ancient writers, that the most genial climate for persons either predisposed, or in the earliest stage of the disease, is a warm one, subject to a little variation; but to those who are farther advanced in it, such a climate is decidedly pernicious; hectic fever is increased, and soon terminates fatally. In proof of this fact, we may cite the opinions of Dr. Heikker and Renton, who resided for a long time in the island of Madeira, viz: that the fine climate of that island is highly beneficial to those who are in the first stage of consumption; but positively injurious to those who are in the subsequent stages of the disease. Dr. R. has published a table, exhibiting results.—Of 47 persons who arrived at Madeira in advanced states of consumption, 32 died within six months of their arrival; 6 returned home and died soon after; 6 remained longer in the island, but died there."

These facts are strikingly analogous to those which have been remarked in the United States. In New York, where the variations of temperature are even greater than in London or Paris, the average deaths by consumption is 243 in 1000. The City Inspector, in his annual report to the Corporation for 1839, states the total number of interments to be 7953, of which 1315 died of consumption, 460 of inflammation of the lungs, 36 of inflammation of the chest, 28 of bleeding of the lungs, 38 of congestion of the lungs, and 72 of bronchitis—total 1939; from which it follows, that 243 in 1000 died of consumption, or of diseases which come within that category.

He remarks.—The mortality from pulmonary diseases, including in this list all the disorders of the respiratory organs, is nearly equal to one third of the whole number of interments.—The deaths from pulmonary consumption alone, during the past year, (1839,) were 1315, being an increase of 90 over the preceding.—The mortality from pulmonary consumption may be rated at one sixth of all the deaths, but the average varies greatly among the different classes. It is worthy of remark, that of those over ten years of age that died of this disease, more than half are natives of Europe. Of the 5564 deaths among our native citizens, only 619, or about one in nine, occurred from consumption. Of the 462 deaths among our colored population, 132, or one in three and a half, occurred of this disease; and of the 1553 deaths among our European population, 663, or about one in three and a quarter, occurred from the same disease."

These deductions are, however, founded upon the 1315 deaths reported by consumption, whereas, the deaths under that class really amounted to 1939. The remarkable disparity in the number of deaths by consumption, between the native and the European population of the city of New York, has been noted to be nearly the same, in the bills of mortality preceding 1839. Throughout the Eastern states, the mortality is probably greater than in New York; while in Lower Canada, where the winters are as cold as those of Stockholm and St. Petersburg, but very dry, and subject to trifling variations, the disease is much less frequent than with us.

It may be remarked as a proof of the dryness of the air in Lower Canada, that nearly all the houses and churches in the city of Montreal are covered with roofs of tin, which retains its brightness for years.

It is stated farther, "that the country bordering upon our great lakes is not so subject to pulmonary affections as that upon the seaboard; the natives who inhabit it are much less liable to it than we are; and it has been observed, that soldiers sent hence to our garrisons in the vicinity of the lakes, often recover from incipient consumption." The temperature of the Island of Michilimacine, from the June 15 to Aug. 15, is almost invariable, and the climate, during this brief period of summer, is one of the finest in the United States.—Might it not be found beneficial to persons predisposed to pulmonary affection. The custom with us unhappily is, to hurry away our friends in the last stages of consumption to die in Europe among strangers, deprived of the comforts and consolations of home; the sea voyage sometimes renovates the strength

and rallies the hope of the poor sufferer; both, however, are speedily exhausted by the fatigue and privation and posting to Italy, and seeing sights.—Nothing strikes the heart of a traveller with a deeper sorrow, than to read the well known name of a dear friend inscribed upon a solitary tomb in the cemeteries of Rome, Pisa, &c. It instantly awakens our sympathy to the accumulated horror of his dying far away from home—a victim to the unthinking advice of those who bade him leave his native land."

The inquirer then adds the following remarks: "This is doubtless correct in regard to cases far advanced. There are few individuals, however, who cannot point out cases in which a sea voyage has resulted most favorably.—A case of this kind came immediately under our notice a short time since. A young man, a Philadelphian, only 21 years of age, and apparently in the last stage of consumption, believing that death was inevitable if he remained here, took the advice of some friends, and proceeded to Ireland, where he now is, fully recovered, and apparently destined to a long life. Another case was mentioned to us recently by the gentleman himself. He had been laboring under the consumption as he believed, for a number of months, and was so reduced that he was almost unable to walk.—He proceeded to the Havana, where he remained several months and with the happiest effects. He returned to Philadelphia fully recovered, and has resided here for the last six or eight years, without anything like a relapse. It is clear, therefore, that although absence from home and friends may prove fatal in some cases, that is, when the disease has gone too far—yet in others, change of air and of scene, is attended with the most beneficial results.—The subject is one in which thousands are deeply interested, on which inquiries are constantly being made—and we think it a duty on the part of those who have experienced benefit from any particular course, or been injured from any other course, to make the result of their experience public, for the advantage of others similarly situated. We may mention three of the most prominent causes of consumption (when it is not hereditary,) in this country—namely, thin shoes, tight corsets—and the custom, so prevalent in winter, of sleeping in a heated room, and the emerging suddenly into an atmosphere of the coldest description.

No one can fail to be deeply interested in these statistics. They embody a vast amount of valuable information. The probability of discovering a climate within our borders, capable of healing the sufferer is, in our opinion by no means problematical. Here on the seaboard, we have but a faint idea of the climate of portions of the interior. As we cross the mountains different winds prevail, and the whole atmospheric character seems almost reversed. The cold north-east winds do not prevail there, and the climate generally is more even and genial. We have no doubt, that a series of well directed inquiries can throw much light upon this subject. The English in Hudson's Bay, have discovered in the interior a climate which fully answers all the purposes of the old voyage to England, for an invalid.—May not nature furnish the same means of cure somewhere within the vast boundaries of our own magnificent land?

HOW TO ACQUIRE HIGH HEALTH.

WALKER, in his "original," lays down the following rules for attaining high health. They are worth remembering: "First, study to acquire a composure of mind and body. Avoid agitation or hurry of one or the other, especially just before and after meals, and whilst the process of digestion is going on. To this end govern your temper—endeavor to look at the bright side of things—keep down as much as possible the unruly passions—discard envy, hatred, and malice, and lay your head upon your pillow in charity with all mankind. Let not your wants outrun your means. Whatever difficulties you have to encounter, be not perplexed, but only think what is right to do in the sight of Him who seeth all things, and bear without repining the result. When your meals are solitary, let your thoughts be cheerful; when they are social, which is better, avoid disputes, or serious argument, or unpleasant topics. 'Unquiet meals,' says Shakespeare, 'make ill digestions,' and the contrary is produced by easy conversation, a pleasant project, welcome news, or a lively companion. I advise wives not to entertain their husbands with domestic grievances about children or servants, not to ask for money, nor produce unpaid bills, nor propound unreasonable or provoking questions; and advise husbands to keep the cares and vexations of the world to themselves, but to be communicative of whatever is comfortable and cheerful and amusing."

Parting.—Farewell Summer! It is a sad thing to bid adieu, for what length of time we know not—perhaps forever—to the kind smiling friend which has sojournd with us for months, and with whose ways and aspect we have become familiar. If, perchance, a fondness or a passion on our part, may have grown up during our long intimacy, it is now to be speedily irradicated, or at least suspended for a season, for we see thy departure indicated by the russet mantle thou art adjusting on thy perfect form, and the autumn wreaths which deck thy shining brow. Thou art laden with delicious fruits to regale thee on thy journey, and has left with us an abundance of substantial gifts to remember thee in thine absence. We will remember thee. May we all live to witness thy return! But we would have thee linger yet a little while, until we may glance another time, though it be the last, at thy fair lineaments and pleasant smile. Oh, it is sad to part! It may be forever! We would once more rush into thy soft embrace, and sigh upon thy parting bosom—sip again the nectar of thy rosy lip—have thy sweet breath throw aside the light locks on our temples, as it was wont to do—strew bright flowers around our rural couch—and beguile us, yet once more, with the chirp of the katy-did, and the pensive song of the whippoorwill, while we recline at eve in the green bower, and again look up at the calm blue sky, and watch the bright moon sailing in its sea of ether, and the million twinkling stars that ever seem to gem the heavens with a peculiar brilliance in honor of thy presence. Thou canst not tarry! Already thy sandal, made of the "sea-leaf," is tripping along the mountain's brow, and thy clear voice, in reply to our many adieus, utters the word FAREWELL! It is borne downward on the breeze, and every valley echoes the same sad "FAREWELL!" We pause among the clustering flowers, and the singing wind that sways the blossoms to an fro, cries in audible tones, "FAREWELL! We pluck the full-blown rose from its green stem, and every delicate pink leaf that falls to the earth, whispers 'FAREWELL!' It is true the loved and cherished guest of the season is leaving us. The parting of Summer is a subject for great reflection. It proves that our greatest enjoyments here are evanescent. That the gifts of the Creator are glorious, and bestowed with a liberal hand; but that we are doomed to mourn when the "sunshine of his countenance" is turned away from us. And that however much we may rejoice in a fleeting season on earth, when we merit an abiding place in heaven, our pleasure will be infinitely greater, for there the Summer will be eternal.—*Balt. Visitor.*

ASTRONOMY.

In the Report of John Quincy Adams on the Smithsonian bequest, occurs the following eloquent passage describing the beauty and sublimity of the science of Astronomy:

"The express object of an observatory is the increase of knowledge by new discovery. The physical relations between the firmament of Heaven and the Globe allotted by the Creator of all to be the abode of man, are discoverable only by the organ of the eye. Many of these relations are indispensable to the existence of human life, and, perhaps, of the earth itself. Who can conceive the idea of a world without a sun, but must connect it with the extinction of light and heat, of all animal life, of all vegetation and production, leaving the lifeless clod of matter to return to its primitive state of chaos or to be consumed by elemental fire? The influence of the moon—of the planets, our next door neighbors of the solar system—of the fixed stars, scattered over the blue expanse in multitudes exceeding the power of human computation, and at distances of which imagination herself can form no distinct conception—the influence of all these on the globe which we inhabit, and upon the condition of man, its dying and deathless inhabitant, is great and mysterious, and in the search for final causes, in a great degree inscrutable to his finite and limited faculties. The extent to which they are discoverable is, and must remain unknown—but, to the vigilance of a sleepless eye, to the toil of a tireless hand, and to the meditations of a thinking, combining and analyzing mind, secrets are successively revealed, not only of the deepest import to the welfare of man in his earthly career, but which seem to lift him from the earth to the threshold of his eternal abode—to lead him blindfold up to the council chamber of Omnipotence; and there stripping the bandage from his eyes, bid him look undazzled at the Throne of God."

The whigs of Iowa have nominated Mr. Rich as congressional delegate of that territory, and the democrats have nominated Gen. Dodge.

American.

BUT RIGHT OR WRONG, OUR COUNTRY."

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1840.

[No. 4.]

VIRGINIA IN 1617.—Transcribed from the M. S. S. in the British Museum, and copied here from that periodical of surpassing excellence, Mr. White's "Southern Literary Messenger."—The account was given by the celebrated Rolfe, the husband of Pocahontas, daughter of King Powhatan:

Now that your highness may with the more ease understand in what condition the colony standeth, I have briefly set down the manner of all men's several employments, the number of them, and the several places of their abode, which places or states are all of our owne ground, notso much by conquest, which the Indians hold a just and lawful title, but purchased of them freely, and they verie willingly selling it.

The places which are now possessed and inhabited are sixe.

1. Henrico and the lymitts
2. Bermuda Nether
3. West and Sherley
4. James Towne
5. Jekquighitan
6. Dales-Gift

Members belonging to ye Bermuda Towne a place so called there, by reason of the strength of the situation, were it differently fortified.

The generall mayne body of planters are divided into

1. Officers.
2. Laborers.
3. Farmers.

The officers have the charge and care as well over the farmers as labores generallie—they watch and ward for their pre-servations; and that both the one and the other's busines may be daily followed to the performance of those employments, which from the one are required, and the other by covenant are bound unto. These officers are bound to maintayne themselves and families with food and rayment by their owne and their servants' industrie.

The laborers are of two sorts. Some employed only in the general works, who are fedd and clothed out of the store—others, specially artificers, as smiths, carpenters, shoemakers, tanners, &c., doe work in their professions for the colony, and maintayne themselves with food apparel, having time lymitted them to till and manure their ground.

The farmers live at most ease—yet by their good endeavors bring yearlie much plentie to the plantation. They are bound by covenant, both for themselves and servants, to maintayne your Ma'ties right and title in that kingdom, against all foreigne and domestique enemies. To watch and ward in the townes were they are resident. To do thirty-one days service for the colony, when they shall be called thereunto—yet not at all times, but when there owne busines can best spare them. To maintayne themselves and families with food and rayment—and every farmer to pay yearlie into the magazine, for himself and every man servant, two barrels and a half a piece of their best Indian wheat, which amounteth to twelve bushells and a half of English measure. Thus briefly have I sett downe every man's particular employment and manner of living; albeit, lest the people who generallie are bent to covett after gaine, especially having tasted of the sweete of their labors—should spend too much of their tyme and labor in planting tobacco, knowne to them to be verie vendible in England, and so neglect their tillage of corne, and fall into want thereof, it is provided for—by the providence and care of Sir Thomas Dale—that no farmer or other—who must maintayne themselves—shall plant any tobacco, unless he shall yearlie manure, set and maintayne for himself and every man servant two acres of ground with corne, which doing they may plant as much tobacco as they will, els all their tobacco shall be forfeite to the colony—by which means the magazine shall yearlie be sure to receive their rent of corne; to maintayne those who are fedd thereout, being but a few, and maine others, if need be; they themselves will be well stored to keepe their families with overplus, and reape tobacco enough to buy clothes and such other necessities as are needfull for themselves and household. For an easie laborer will keepe and tend two acres of corne, and cure a good store of tobacco—being yet the principall commodite the colony for the present yieldeth. For which as for other commodities, the council and company for Virginia have already sent a ship thither, furnished with all manner of clothing, household stuff and such necessities, to establish a magazin there, which the people shall buy at easie rates for their commodities—they selling them at such prices that the adventurers may be no losers. This magazin shall be yearlie supplied to furnish them, if they will endeavor by their labor to maintayne it—which will be much beneficial to the planters and adventurers, by interchanging their commodities, and will add encouragement to them and others to persevere and follow

the action with a constant resolution to uphold the same.

The number of neate cattle, horses and goates, which were alive in Virginia at Sir Thomas Dale's departure thence:

Cowes, 83
Heifers, 41
Cow calves, 41
Steeres, 20
Bulles, 20
in all 144.

Memorand: 20 of the cowes were great with calfe at his departure.

Horses, 3
Mares, 3
Goates, 3
in all 6

and male & female, in all 216.

Kiddes, 1
Hoggs, wild and tame, not to be nombred.
Poultry, great plenty.

TWO LEGGED CATTLE.

Read the following from the Baltimore Sun, and ask yourselves what must be thought of men, or things wearing the human form, who can stoop to such infamy and degradation, as to become a voluntary team to draw a strolling dancer through the streets in a carriage!

IDOLATRY.—The perfection of grace is modesty. Our grantholders—those heroic, noble hearted and chivalrous matrons, who sacrificed every luxury to promote the success of their husbands and brethren,—possessed it. It was that charm which wound around the hearts of those who battled for freedom and nerved their arms to preserve those who possessed it. How is it now? The lascivious exhibitions of the European stage are working fearful inroads upon that pure and holy feeling. Modesty may be still found in every class of life, but fashion is aiming a death blow that among its votaries will be fatal to its antagonist. What would the mother of Washington have said had her son George taken a modest young lady to see a score of females almost without clothing and throwing themselves into attitudes calculated for exposure of their persons? What would she have said if she had assisted in dragging such women through the streets of a city in a carriage? She would have discarded him. Had he ever done so, he never would have become the "foremost man of all the world." These sentiments may be decried as wanting in refinement and taste. We care not what excuse may be given for the modern exhibitions of dancing, we denounce them as demoralizing in their effects. Young girls, whose chaste thoughts would be shocked at the idea of acting in such a manner themselves, are there with opera glasses. Boys, in whose young minds should be instilled the strongest principles of virtue, go there to have the seeds of future misery and disgrace sown within their bosoms. Aged men and women are there, setting the example; and is it then a wonder that scenes disgraceful to humanity should be enacted? To this cause may be attributed the scandalous occurrence of Monday night.

When Mlle Ellsler had concluded her performance at the Holiday street theatre, and was about retiring home in a carriage, a party of men and boys, in pursuance of previous arrangement, detached the horses, and dragged her in the carriage to Barnum's hotel. Disgust at such conduct was depicted in the countenance of every spectator and loudly expressed.—Such may be the customs of other countries, but it is not a republican spirit that prompts such idolatry to any human being. It is not the spirit that animated our forefathers. The matrons of seventy-six would have blushed with shame at the exhibitions of the modern stage, and their hearts would have been grieved to see their sons kneeling at the feet of any public danseuse, and degrading themselves to the service of beasts of burden to do her honor. It is said that none but the lady's own countrymen drew the carriage, and that such is the custom of their country. We know to the contrary. There were a number of Americans in that gang, and we feel fully satisfied that the morning's sober reflections brought a feeling of shame to their minds, for having allowed themselves to be carried away from every sense of propriety by the fascinations of a graceful and elegant woman, accomplished almost to perfection in an art which may have its attractions, but which attractions are contrary to strict morality and decency.

INDIAN SUPERSTITIONS.—Near F. Leavenworth, in Platte county, Missouri, is the grave of a distinguished Pottawatomie chief. The editor of the Hannibal Monitor has often seen members of the tribe standing in sad silence before it. In the long summer nights, from night-fall to day-break, a bird unknown except by song to the woodsmen, pours out a melancholy strain of music. The Indians say it is the "spirit bird," hanging over the tomb of the chieftain.